

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

~~positioning~~ securing the seal assembly to in contact with the wellhead; and

applying and retaining a tensile force on the string after said securing, all in one trip.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising:

securing the seal assembly to the wellhead.

3. (Currently amended)

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

allowing a lock ring to move between said seal assembly and the wellhead to secure said seal assembly in the wellhead prior to said pulling.

4. (Currently amended)~~The method of claim 3, comprising:~~

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;
securing the string downhole;
positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and
pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;
allowing a lock ring to move between said seal assembly and the wellhead to
secure said seal assembly in the wellhead;
using a running tool to deliver said string and seal assembly;
releasing said lock ring using said running tool.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, comprising:

retaining said string with the running tool after releasing said lock ring.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, comprising:

releasing the lock ring by rotation of the running tool.

7. (Original) The method of claim 4, comprising:

using the running tool to pull tension on said string;

locking in the tension with a ratchet.

8. (Previously amended)

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead,
comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

allowing a lock ring to move between said seal assembly and the wellhead to secure said seal assembly in the wellhead;

using a running tool to deliver said string and seal assembly;

releasing said lock ring using said running tool;

using the running tool to pull tension on said string;

locking in the tension with a ratchet;

providing a biased dog in a groove on said string having at least one exterior tooth;

securing a ratchet rack to said seal assembly;

moving said dog with respect to said rack while tension is applied; and

allowing said dog to retain said tension when said tooth jumps into an adjacent depression in said rack.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, comprising:

building in said bias integrally into said dog.

10. (Currently amended)

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

pulling said tensile force on said string before said positioning of said seal assembly;

advancing said seal assembly into said wellhead ~~during or~~ after said pulling of said tensile force.

11. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 10, comprising:~~

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

pulling said tensile force on said string before said positioning of said seal assembly;

advancing said seal assembly into said wellhead during or after said pulling of said tensile force;

using a hydraulic piston for said advancing.

12. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 10, comprising:~~

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead, comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

pulling said tensile force on said string before said positioning of said seal assembly;

advancing said seal assembly into said wellhead during or after said pulling of
said tensile force;

using a rack and pinion for said advancing.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, comprising:

using a running tool to insert said string and said seal assembly into the wellhead:

advancing said seal assembly by moving it into the wellhead with respect to said
running tool.

14. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 13, comprising:~~

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead,
comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;

securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

pulling said tensile force on said string before said positioning of said seal

assembly;

advancing said seal assembly into said wellhead during or after said pulling of
said tensile force;

using a running tool to insert said string and said seal assembly into the wellhead:

advancing said seal assembly by moving it into the wellhead with respect to said

running tool;

releasing a lock, after said advancing, to secure said seal assembly to the wellhead
with said running tool.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, comprising:

securing said seal assembly to a hanger; and
securing the hanger and seal assembly to the wellhead.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10, comprising:

securing said seal assembly to a hanger; and
securing the hanger and seal assembly to the wellhead.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, comprising:

securing said seal assembly to a hanger; and
securing the hanger and seal assembly to the wellhead.

18. (Previously amended)

A one trip method of tensioning and sealing a tubular string to a wellhead,
comprising:

running the tubular string and a seal assembly together into the wellhead;
securing the string downhole;

positioning the seal assembly in contact with the wellhead; and

pulling a tensile force on the string, all in one trip;

pulling said tensile force on said string before said positioning of said seal
assembly;

advancing said seal assembly into said wellhead during or after said pulling of
said tensile force;

using a running tool to insert said string and said seal assembly into the wellhead:

advancing said seal assembly by moving it into the wellhead with respect to said
running tool;

releasing a lock, after said advancing, to secure said seal assembly to the wellhead with said running tool;

securing said seal assembly to a hanger; and

securing the hanger and seal assembly to the wellhead;

providing a biased dog in a groove on said string having at least one exterior tooth;

securing a ratchet rack to said hanger;

moving said dog with respect to said rack while tension is applied; and

allowing said dog to retain said tension when said tooth jumps into an adjacent depression in said rack.

19. (Previously amended) The method of claim 18, comprising:

providing a seal between said string and said rack during relative movement between them.

20. (Original) The method of claim 8, comprising:

providing a seal between said string and said rack during relative movement between them.